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MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1910.

Americans at Oxford.

When the late Cecil Rhodes, that South African genius whose dream of a federation of South Africa has come to pass, died, his will, which provided for a certain number of scholarships at Oxford University, expressed the hope that the scholars coming from the United States, Germany, and the British colonies would, in due course, return to their own countries to spread the gospel of English ideals. It appears that in one part, at least, of his plan the hopes of Cecil Rhodes are to be marred. Americanism, it seems, is too self-reliant, too sure of itself, to be weakened even by three years' association with English university students, or to be moved by the fine traditions of English life.

An English writer to the London Mail calls the attention of the public to the fact that while the British colonials and the Germans who have won Rhodes scholarships have assimilated easily and well with the traditional life of the classic university, it has not been so with the American Rhodes scholars, who "do not assimilate, do not associate with the rest of the students." This writer, who is an Oxford man, says that after the first week at Oxford the American scholars murmur at English insularity and draw into themselves at the American Club, where they read American newspapers, discuss American politics, sing American songs, and might just as well be back in America for all the good they do Oxford or themselves. There seems to be only one place where the American scholars join with their fellow students of Oxford on common ground, and that is on the athletic field, where it is admitted that the excellence of the American gains him coveted distinction and is of great benefit to Oxford in her rivalry with Cambridge.

It may be remembered that when the facts of Cecil Rhodes' will became known there was some apprehension expressed lest our Rhodes scholars should, after three years at Oxford, lose much of their understanding of the true American spirit; that being steeped in British classicism they might return with a weakened affection and reverence for the democratic institutions which are at once the strength and the glory of the United States. It appears that all such fears were ill-grounded. The American youth remains an American youth still, and even in the schools that bred the product of British statesmen and whose halls have sheltered kings his patriotism is proof.

Since reading his attack on Mr. Mitchell, we are not sure that Mayor Gaynor is entirely well or that the Rochester convention erred in accepting the Creelman ultimatum.

The Healing Arts.

Gl Blas in an extraordinarily caricatured description of his several apprenticeships with physicians of the age in which he lived presents to the reader between the lines a pretty fair idea of the healer's art and methods in the eighteenth century. Such a standard as may easily be erected upon the pictures which this account and old romances give enables one to institute a tolerably fair comparison of it with present-day established methods and the several suggestions that are so frequently put forward by potent healing agencies.

The changes which the world has made in the treatment of the sick within the suggested period, and more particularly within the last half century, are one of the most significant measures of the progress of civilization; for its very foundation and the mainstays which inhere to the cure of disease and relief of physical suffering are those benevolent affections the generous exercise of which through the social community make for all that is really well worth while in life.

In the strictly technical and academic side of disease, there is at work all over the world an incredibly large army of scientists whose lives are devoted in study, exposure, and experiment to the rigid investigation of conditions, agencies, and remedies with all the exactness of scientific procedure. It is upon this great substratum of precise knowledge that the world most relies for both aid and information during the crises of disease.

But hardly less important in the great evidences of advance appear the development of all the means of helpful ministrations by nurses, the sanitary and comfortable housing of patients, and the thousand and one means of ameliorating suffering and promoting physical comfort during the hours of pain and suffering to which all are at times exposed. This side, supplemented by the generous contributions of sympathy and philanthropy, everywhere so apparent, affords

a correct view of the advance the world has made in the militant charity that is characteristic of this age.

It is doubtless along these avenues of sympathy, philanthropy, and the application of what may be regarded as the accessories of medical treatment that the advocates of the many theories that the mind is a dominant factor in physical health have arrived. All schools of physicians are ready to admit that the mind influences both the feelings and the health; it is the question of the true measure of this influence that causes a difference among them. And upon this subject, as upon nearly all others which lie close to human interests and welfare, extremes of opinion are freely and vigorously expressed. No one, even the most conservative, objects to a resort to all of the agencies that may be palliative or helpful in illness and pain, so long as a rational prudence does not neglect the application of the agencies which long experience has taught have the indorsement of science, which, after all, is only another name for tried and proved knowledge.

Of course, if we should need any executive help while President Taft is in Panama we know where to turn.

Army and Navy Legislation.

The annual reports of the military commanders team with recommendations for the increase of the commissioned personnel, which is the subject of a special bill now pending before Congress. The recommendations pertain to the coast artillery as well as the mobile army, and seek to supply the number of officers required for filling the places of those who are called away from their regular commands by what is known as detached duty, such as that with the militia, the colleges where instruction is given in the military art by army officers, recruiting duty, service with the general staff of the War Department, and so on. It would take nearly 80 officers to fill the places of those who are now on duty of one class or another.

It is not likely that Congress can be induced to make any such increase at this time, especially as the navy and Marine Corps have their needs in the same direction, if to a less numerical extent, and represented also by pending legislation. Looking at the situation from the standpoint of those of the military-naval establishment, it probably appears that Congress is singularly lacking in sagacity in its postponement of definite and positive action on these various measures of relief; but the legislator is permitted to view the situation from a less prejudiced standpoint and appreciate that there are other necessities quite as urgent and of equal value to the public and for the maintenance of the government as any of the proposed legislation for the increase of commissioned personnel, the reorganization of the military-naval body, or the augmentation of the facilities of attack and defense.

One of the difficulties which beset members of the House and Senate naval and military committees when it comes to determining which of a voluminous and varied mass of proposed service legislation shall be enacted, arises from the failure of the service experts themselves to agree upon the best measures of relief and reform. Hardly any measure which affects more than one officer reaches Congress without being closely followed with the information that it is more or less unworthy of Congressional adoption. With Congress disposed to do nothing on the slightest provocation, it is no occasion for remark that this opposition is sufficient for the pigeonholing of bills which are sent to the Capitol with departmental indorsement, if not departmental authorship, and sustained, as they are in some instances, by Presidential approval and appeal. It is not unusual for members of the military-naval committees to find it possible to say to those seeking legislation on some general proposition that they are willing to impart committee support to a proposition when it shall have met with a reasonable measure of approbation on the part of those in whose behalf it is offered. This is antagonism which it would seem to be easy enough to avoid, but it has undoubtedly been the principal obstacle in the way of successful service legislation.

Alas for the rarity of Christian charity between opposing candidates.

The Probation System.

The probation system has recently been put in force in Washington. The primary object of this system is to save first offenders from the severe punishment to which they become liable, and if possible to reclaim them and make useful citizens of them.

Under the probation officers are, in the discretion of the trial judge, given charge of all first offenders except those guilty of the more heinous crimes. And it is the duty of the probation officer to keep track of the offender for a prescribed time and exercise a certain guardianship over him.

The benefits of this system when well managed are far reaching. The benefit is not confined to the criminal nor to his family, but extends to the public at large, for it is well known that service in prison tends to make hardened criminals.

But the system is prone to mismanagement. Any one familiar with the workings of the system in New York City knows that it has detracted from "the fear of the law." The criminal classes took upon probation as a matter of right and as a surety against punishment for the first offense. This is due in no small measure to the fact that the New York judges have failed to exercise the discretion vested in them, and have enforced the law as if it read "all first offenders shall be put upon probation."

The probation officers are overrun with probationers, and it is impossible for them to keep track of, much less to supervise, those committed to their care. The probationer usually makes a formal report only once a month, which may be true or false. Under these circumstances it is not surprising that we very often find the probationer engaged in crime even during the term of his probation.

It is to be hoped that these and like evils will be avoided in the Washington system. This can be done through the

trial judge's exercising the discretion vested in him wisely—that is, by extending the benefits of the system to none save those likely to prove worthy of it. And by the maintenance of an adequate force of probation officers who take their duty of guardianship seriously, and under no circumstances are content with mere formal reports.

As we understand Actor Sothern's answer to his wife's divorce suit, he left her without just provocation, but was justly provoked when he left.

It took a big council a whole week to decide whether prayer helps a sick man, and then they didn't decide it.

A headline says "Eggs are soaring," and at the same time a news item says that a number of actors are going back to the farm to work.

East St. Louis will not permit its policemen to smoke cigarettes. East St. Louis, mind you!

It is reported that the new President of Portugal writes poetry. But even American Presidents are often cruelly maligned.

As an expounder of political English Prof. Woodrow Wilson has his distinct uses. He declares that the trouble with direct primaries is that they are not "direct," nor yet "primaries."

The statement that Manuel of Portugal owns several millions in foreign securities would seem to indicate that, at least, he was thoughtful enough to look ahead.

The Milwaukee Sentinel asks: "Hasn't some kind motherly or fatherly person invited you to Thanksgiving dinner yet? With humiliation the confession comes: 'Not yet.'"

Mrs. Rorer, the famous cook, says that we should beware of lobster. But her advice is not directed toward chorus girls.

At least, it might seem that those New York art dealers were artists in smuggling.

The Swiss republic has formally welcomed the new republican infant, Portugal. There are likely to be more infants of the same sort in that European family.

When that proposition to sell fiction by the pound goes through there will hardly be so much light reading.

A Chicago physician says that too much pie is detrimental to health. All the political pie is soon to be put safely away in the civil service cupboard.

Talk about "a feast of reason." They "bargue" that the colonel is eating his words in his latest speeches on the tariff.

King Manuel, it is said, selected Gibraltar as a place of refuge because it had been so well advertised. That New Jersey insurance company should offer him a job.

"For his courage and independence, Senator Bourne is to be admired," says an Oregon journal. Yes; and generally supported, too.

The new regime in Nicaragua guarantees the privacy of letters. Prof. Harry Peck is thinking of moving down there.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

THE LATE VACATION.
The solitude is not a myth,
"Tis cold upon the river;
You contemplate your bedroom with
A shiver.

There are no people on the lawn,
Which makes you glum and glummer;
The pretty girls have all been gone
Since summer.

The leaves are falling from the trees,
The night clerk's gab seems silly;
The porch is empty, and the breeze
Is chilly.

The solemn waiter looks at you
And shakes his head in pity;
You stay three days, then beat it to
The city.

In Full Swing.
"The campaign is now formally open."
"Why do you say that?"
"I see an engineer has shaken hands
With a trainload of candidates."

All Along the Line.
"Our grocer isn't logical. When ice goes up, he raises the price of meat."
"That's all right. He has to use ice to keep his meat chilled."
"But he also gives the price of kindling wood a substantial boost."

In Armor.
And never known to blench;
To don their clothes, the saying goes,
They used a monkey-wrench.

All the Advantages.
"The house is easy of access, you say?"
"Oh, yes! It is within short walking distance of a point where a railroad is expected to be built soon."

Doing Her Part.
"Wife, will you thread a needle for me? I want to sew on a button."
"Certainly! I'll thread the needle for you. There you are. I don't know how you ever managed before you were married."

A Bad Egg.
"He has tricked me for the last time."
"What is his latest ruse?"
"He borrowed my revolver, ostensibly to commit suicide, and then went and pawned it."

"O BANNER OF THE WEST."
Pass on, pass on, ye flagging flies
Of men who march in uninitiated array;
Ye hallooing hordes, tinkling drums,
Ring out, roll on, and die away!
And fade, ye crowds, with the fading day!
Around the city's lofty piles
Of steel and stone

The blue veil of dusk is thrown,
Enlarged full of sparks of fairy light,
And the sword-swallow heart of the girl hums
To a home-ward-tuning tune before the night.
But far above, on the sky-blue broken height,
From all the towers and domes outlined
In gray and gold along the city's crest,
I see the rippling flag still take the wind
With a promise of good to come for all mankind.

O banner of the West,
So good and true and brave
That glorifies a nation's holiday
With tiding show of troops for warfare dressed,
Can rightly measure or trap for
The night's army then last made
Loyal to guard thy more than royal sway
Of law-defended liberty.

Millions have come across the ocean foam
To find beneath the shelter room to grow,
A place to labor and a home,
Millions were born beneath thy folds, and know
No other flag but thee;
And other, darker millions here the yoke
Of bondage in the borders till the voice
Of Lincoln spoke.

—Henry Van Dyke, in Scribner's.

POLITICAL COMMENT.

New York's "Fighting Chance."

From the Milwaukee Sentinel.
When the doctors say of a patient that he has a "fighting chance," that patient thereupon becomes an object of brisk anticipatory interest to the undertaker. In sporting circles a "fighting chance" is commonly taken as a mighty poor one, say, about a 1 to 3 shot in the betting. And when politicians say their candidate has a "fighting chance" in the election, it is about equivalent to admitting that nothing much short of a miracle can save him.

Yet we find Senator Root saying that the Republican ticket in New York has a "fighting chance." Is that the best he can conscientiously say for it at a stage when whoops of confidence in "beating them to a frazzle" are needed? So what's the matter? Has the colonel Bryanized his party in New York into fragments with that Osawatimie doctrine of his? It was his convention, it is his platform and his ticket. It will be regarded as his defeat, should Mr. Root's indirect prognostication come true—in which case it will be easy for the colonel to issue an "under no circumstances," &c., manifesto as to 1912.

Senator Carter Embarrassed.

From the Butte Miner.
The best joke that has happened so far in the political battle is reported from Phillipsburg, where Senator Carter spoke last Thursday night. In his regular set speech Mr. Carter pays quite a tribute to Congressman Pray, who is tarred with the same brush as the Senator, although one is Aldrichism and the other Cannonism.

The Senator had himself worked up to a finely simulated pitch of earnestness which is necessary to the play, when Speaker Cannon's Montana supporter is introduced, and Mr. Carter started this subject off by saying:

"Now there is Mr. Pray. Who is Charles N. Pray?" Then with a final flourish of his right hand the Senator declared: "I repeat, who is Charles Pray?"

He seemed to pause for a reply, and a tall, gaunt-looking man arose in the audience and said: "If no one else will bite, I will. Who is he, anyway?"

Mr. Carter is said to have appeared terribly embarrassed, while the audience was convulsed with laughter.

Why Is the Colonel Lagging?

From the Baltimore Sun.
The colonel is lagging very far behind the insurgents on the tariff. They frankly and freely denounce the Payne-Aldrich law, and demand an immediate revision downward. Col. Roosevelt hesitates, allows the New York convention to adopt a standstill tariff plank, and talks vaguely of investigation by tariff commissions. On other questions Mr. Roosevelt may have "caught up," and in some cases is even running ahead of the progressives. On the tariff question he appears to be still in the rear, along with Taft, Lodge, Aldrich, Cannon and Payne. The colonel himself has been very late in starting on tariff revision, and will have considerable progress to make before he "catches up" with Cummings, La Follette, Dooliver, and his dear friend Beveridge.

Dr. Wilson Not Amateurlish.

From the Philadelphia Record.
A free country, according to Woodrow Wilson, is "a country wherein the professional politicians are kept perpetually guessing." For an "amateur" in the art of government this is not bad. And it is wonderful what an amount of guessing this mere "schoolmaster" has already compelled the professionals to do. It looks as though New Jersey were fast nearing the day of her freedom from the board of guardians and other exponents of a government of the interests, by the interests and for the interests.

A Strong Combination.
From the New York Mail.
Three Republicans, and they the most distinguished in the land, co-operated to form the Republican line of action in the State-direct nominations to the force, a progressive ticket and platform. Gov. Hughes made the issue, President Taft gave it his support as national party leader. Theodore Roosevelt is driving the fight home. Any cause in which these men stand shoulder to shoulder may not appeal to Democrats of the Murphy ilk, but ought to look good to Republicans.

The Kaiser's brother, Prince Henry of Prussia, is doing more to promote good fellowship between Germany and England than all of the speeches that the emperor has made, no matter how full of friendly exhortations. Prince Henry, who recently has been the guest of his cousin, King George, at Balmoral (the cousins are very chummy), has evolved a plan that is bound to bear fruit.

Having suggested a friendly motor contest between fifty cars, representing the best in either country, and which is to take place next year after the coronation, Prince Henry now is beginning to perfect the details of the plan. As soon as Prince Francis of Teck has fully recuperated from the effects of the operation which he recently had to undergo, a meeting of the competition and the route committees is to be held, when Prince Henry, Admiral Rompold, and Count Muenster, representing the Imperial Automobile Club of Germany, will attend in person.

The Fairy Godmothers.
From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.
The fairy godmothers stood around the cradle of the pink and white newcomer. There were a half dozen of these godmothers, because the family was an old one and had them in stock.

The old ladies, leaning on their shony canes, looked down at the stranger thoughtfully and were silent for a little space.

Presently the oldest godmother spoke. "I will give her wealth," she said, "that she may marry a prince."

"I will give her pride," said the second. "That she may hold herself aloof from the poor and common."

"I will give her selfishness," said the third. "That others may flatter her by their envy."

"I will give her beauty," said the fourth. "I will give her the love for dress," said the fifth. "That she may not be annoyed by the commoner objects of affection."

Then they all looked at the sixth godmother.

"And I," said the sixth godmother, with a sudden smile, "will give her the power to reject all your gifts, that she may be happy."

"Pooh!" cried the five godmothers in a satirical chorus.

Then they went their separate ways with much tapping of the shony canes.

And the little maid grew up without wealth, or beauty, or pride, or selfishness, or vanity.

And was merely happy.

Which, after all, is something.

Or Did He Escape?
From the Houston Post.
"I met Miss Elderly and Miss Sere going for a tramp yesterday."

"Which one of them got him?"

The One Exception.
From the Dallas News.
When it comes to the necessities of life, breath is the only one of them that's free.

SOCIAL GOSSIP OF

FOREIGN CAPITALS

Society has another "new" fad. This time it is the collection of rare and antique rings. For a real, unique ring, set with uncommon stones, enormous sums recently have been paid by the smart set, and Mrs. Malvina Drummond, about whose plans for the coming season in the way of grand entertaining at her London house so much has been said in the press of both hemispheres lately, has the finest collection of such rings in England, connoisseurs say.

There are especially two rings in Mrs. Drummond's collection which, if her claims are true, deserve attention. One of these is a ring worn by Marie Antoinette on her way to the guillotine. It is set with a pearl, and the unfortunate Queen, it is said, wore it on her forefinger on her last walk on earth. Then there is a superb ruby ring which belonged to Queen Christine of Sweden, the famous "Spinster Queen" of the Scandinavians.

The Duchess of Westminster, Mrs. Waldorf-Astor, who recently was received by King George and Queen Mary, at Balmoral, despite the fact that she has divorced her first husband, and Mrs. Ian Malcolm, a daughter of Mrs. Langtry, now Lady de Bathe, also own interesting rings with historic associations.

Why rings? It is because the fashion leaders have set the pace that no gloves are to be worn evenings, and women in all grades of society naturally follow suit. Fingers, therefore, are not only adorned with rings that are worth while showing, but the hands also must be in perfect condition. Beauty specialists are now conning money, manufacturers of the London West End being called by telegram to all parts of the land to perfect the lady's long digits into things of beauty, a process which, it is averred, often takes weeks to accomplish.

Speaking of the gracious reception accorded Mrs. Waldorf-Astor by royalty, speculation on that very account is rife whether King George will deviate from the British court's cast-iron rule never to have divorced women appear at court functions.

We all know what a stickler Queen Victoria was for that rule, and that she was irreconcilable on that respect. Well, being the first lady of the land and autocrat at her own court, she of course had a right to dictate court etiquette and to enforce her commands. If Victoria judged all marriages from the viewpoint of her own extremely happy union, she was hardly to be blamed. If she believed in the maxim that no woman had a right to divorce her husband, no matter how badly treated, she clung perhaps too much to the orthodox tenets of the Bible. But then Victoria was brought up in the early part of the last century, and it was to be supposed that her views would be a bit antiquated, though in principle she was absolutely right, that a woman, if she would but try, could make a man instead of break up family ties.

When Edward ascended the throne, it was confidently expected that, to please a certain element in that coterie which he fancied in his princely days, he would change all that and admit "divorces." Indeed, for a while it looked as though he really would, but he did not after all, and the rules laid down by his mother remained in full and unbroken force.

Now we hear that King George, and especially Queen Mary, has sympathized with women who were forced to discard an undesirable husband. For that matter, so did King Edward, and none more so than Queen Victoria herself. But she was determined, before all things, to keep her court on a strictly moral basis, and so will the present rulers. See if they do not. It is not personal likes or dislikes, it is the example they have to set to the country, whose populace looks up to them for exceptional morality, especially since the unsavory doings of the Georges and William, and to the world in general.

The Kaiser's brother, Prince Henry of Prussia, is doing more to promote good fellowship between Germany and England than all of the speeches that the emperor has made, no matter how full of friendly exhortations. Prince Henry, who recently has been the guest of his cousin, King George, at Balmoral (the cousins are very chummy), has evolved a plan that is bound to bear fruit.

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THE TARIFF COMMISSION.

President Needs a Congress that Will Actually Help Him Out.

From the Detroit News.
The agitation for a tariff commission, it must be remembered, did not begin with the present administration, nor with the previous one. Tariff students saw long ago that not only was the tariff unscientifically adjusted by two and four-year Congressmen from time to time, but that the day approached when party and national disaster would attend on this haphazard way of dealing with one of the most vital of our national problems. For something like fifteen or twenty years Nelson W. Aldrich successfully combated all movements toward a tariff commission, and his very last act was to stab the proposition, even while President Taft held it in his hands as a peace offering to the country.

Aided by the intensity of public opinion on the questions of the tariff, President Taft did the country a signal service by bringing the matter of the tariff commission to the fore at a time when his enemies were busy with something dropped their business to kindle the plan, for such a plan contained within it the fate of all future revisions. The President wanted a "commission" (appointed) (note the terms) with certain well specified powers resembling those of a duly constituted court of inquiry. Mr. Aldrich first pared away many of the powers. Mr. Aldrich then pared away much of a semblance of a "commission." Mr. Aldrich lastly pared away all power to "appoint" "appoint" to the word "employ" shrewd old hater-splitter that he is! The upshot of the matter is that President Taft was allowed to spend \$25,000 to "employ" certain men to do whatever they can do. They can't make any one show books; they can't compel witnesses to attend inquiries; they can't do anything in a way befitting the dignity of representation of the President. Any revenue officer is clothed with more power than the President's distinguished "employees"—thanks to Mr. Aldrich.

Thus the tariff commission idea rests thus far only in the intention of President Taft and a few who have, in spite of other differences, consistently fought with him for this reform. No one, of course, doubts the determination of the President to make the commission a real commission, appointive not employed, with powers sufficient to enable it to do its work. The President shall be able to undo Mr. Aldrich's work in the next session of Congress, he will have accomplished one of the biggest attempts of his administration.

The thing to do at present is to keep the people alive to the fact that the tariff commission is not all that it should be, and that the President needs a Congress to enable him to put the plan far beyond the interference of men like Mr. Aldrich. There has been too much commendatory remark about the commission that it is a common error that it is complete, thousands have lain back in comfortable belief that all our tariff troubles are really over. This is wrong. The President still has the big fight before him, and he needs all the help he can get. None but those who favor the tariff commission as an authoritative and permanent body should be sent to Congress this fall.

SPECTACULAR WEST NO MORE.
From the St. Paul Dispatch.

The taking effect of the anti-gambling laws of Nevada will remove another of the spectacular features that made up the wild and woolly West. Licensed gaming is now a thing of the past, every State of the Union having purged its statute books of the law which sanctioned it. But let the boundless West be comforted. It still has its picturesque cowboys, and it will live long in song and story. It will live, too, in "wild West shows" as long as there is a dollar in it for the Hon. William F. Cody.

It will be difficult to convince the credulous East that legalized faro is unknown in the West. Hearing, it will not believe. It will not believe that cowboys no longer shoot up the streets of Kansas City. It cherishes the belief that coyotes howl in the outskirts of Minneapolis, that Indians, in paint and feathers, prowl about St. Paul, and buffaloes are still chased off the back lots of Fargo. It cannot realize that there are more "Indians" on Broadway than in Minnesota, and more gambling in New York City than in all of the border States from St. Paul to the Pacific Coast.